

VIRGINIA SUN

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Dinner to Mark Lee's Birthday, CIA

Author and historian Ludwell Lee Montague of Arlington, will be the guest speaker at tonight's dinner meeting of the George Washington Custis Lee Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy to celebrate the birthday of General Lee and to honor eight contemporary Americans who have served this country in time of war.

Col. Montague, president of the Society of the Lees of Virginia and former professor of military history at the Virginia Military Institute, has served in the Office of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He will address the Daughters and their guests on "Lee's Great Decision" (to leave the Union Army).

The dinner will begin at 6:30 at Patton Hall Officers Club at Ft. Myer. The chapter president and founder, Mrs. Merillat Moses of McLean, will conduct the meeting.

Mrs. Archer H. Overbey, of Chatham, Va., president of the Virginia Division of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, assisted by the local chapter's

recorder of crosses, Mrs. Charles G. Holle of Washington, will bestow eight Crosses of Military Service on the guests honored at the dinner. The Cross of Military Service is the highest award given by the U. D. C. and honors lineal descendants of Confederate soldiers who have served their country in subsequent wars. Recipients of the crosses on Wednesday will be:

Col. Montague; Elmer Oris Parker of Washington, head warden of the records section of the National Archives; James A. Garvey of McLean; Dr. William Beverley Wilkins of Alexandria; Champ Stuart Carter, of Rockville.

Also Lt. Com. James Terrill Redd Jr. of Arlington; Lt. Com. Francis John Taylor Jr. of Leawood, Kan.; and Lt. Col. Carter Hopkins Cowan USAF of Richmond, Va.

The three recipients named last are descendants of Capt. Johns Edward Hopkins CSA, of Virginia, whose daughter, Mrs. Francis John Taylor, will be present to receive her son's award, to deliver it to him in Kansas. More Crosses of Military Service have been awarded to descendants of Capt. Hopkins than to those of any other Confederate veteran.

Lt. Col. Cowan will receive two awards, a World War II medal and a Korean War medal. His relative, Col. Henry L. Taylor, will receive the honors in his behalf.

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